

BROKE GERMAN LINE

Details of Important Allied Victory Before Ypres.

OLD SCORE IS WIPED OUT

Capture of Messines Ridge Peculiarly Gratifying, as It Was the Scene of Former British Defeat—Defenses Shattered.

With the British Armies in France, June 7.—In one of the most elaborately planned and daringly executed maneuvers of the war Sir Douglas Haig's forces have dealt a mighty blow against the German line in Belgium, and been rewarded with notable gains in terrain and the capture of more than 5,000 prisoners and numerous guns of various caliber. In addition they inflicted heavy casualties on the Germans.

The Germans, though apparently aware that the blow was coming and seemingly prepared to meet it, were driven from their nearly three years' hold on Messines ridge, opposite "poor old" Ypres. Ypres in a sense was avenged today, for Messines ridge has been the vantage point from which the Germans have poured torrents of shells into the stricken city. The British also wiped off an old score against the Germans, for they held the ridge in October, 1914, and with very few forces, and virtually no artillery, fought bloodily but vainly to hold it when the Prussian troops massed their modern and overpowering weapons of war against it.

Prisoners taken declared that the bombardment of Vimy ridge was child's play compared with the gunfire turned upon Messines ridge.

Triumph for Artillery. This fire reached its climax just as dawn was graying the eastern skies and while the full moon was still suspended high in the heavens.

The attack was accompanied by all the arts and devilities of latter-day war. The enemy guns and gun crews had been bathed for days in gas shells sent over by the long-range British guns.

The night was filled with red incendiary flames. Shells that spurted lead in streams crashed in appalling numbers about the heads of the defending soldiers. High-explosive and shrapnel fire was carried out with such rapidity that the earth writhed under the force of the attack.

Mines that had taken two years to dig and fill with an overwhelming explosive broke into an avalanche of flaming destruction in the half light of dawn. This was indeed an Ypres day of retaliation and victory for the victims' sufferings of two years and eight months.

Gunsmen Strip to Waist. It was a day of intense heat, and the gunners worked stripped to the waist. The attack went forward with clock-like regularity.

The British casualties were slight. Three out of four of the casualties were reported to be walking cases, who would return to duty in a few days.

The attack began at dawn, and the setting was as picturesque as can well be imagined. The day before had been hot and sultry. Toward evening there was a series of thunder storms which extended well into the night, the lightning mingling with the flashes of the guns, but the thunder being virtually unnoticed amid the din of the cannon. A full moon struggled continuously to break through the heavy clouds which scudded across the velvety night sky.

Sing on Way to Fight. On the way to the front were all the familiar pictures of the war—endless trains of motor trucks; all varieties of horse transport, the British soldiers marching to battle light of heart and singing songs familiar in every American community.

In the shadow of an old windmill which has withstood the storms of a century and been undaunted by nearly three years of war, the correspondent witnessed the last phases of the seven-day preliminary bombardment and the final outburst of the guns which sent the British infantry confidently on their way to new successes in fighting the greatest military nation the world has ever known.

From the German line the same lazy, looping rocket signals were ascending to illuminate the treacherous bit of ground between the trenches known as No Man's Land. This night "strafing" had been going on so long that the enemy considered it entirely normal and took no alarm. Occasionally blue and yellow rockets would be flung into the air by Germans holding the front line.

One by one the guns became silent. There was the old "grandmother" howitzer of enormous caliber, which kept breaking the peace at five-minute intervals, the shock of each succeeding explosion and the shriek of the heavy shells being emphasized by the silence which lay over all the surrounding country.

Like Volcanoes in Eruption. Day was scarcely breaking when from the dimly visible ridge a score of fiery volcanoes seemed suddenly to spring from the earth. The night had been filled with strange noises and still stranger sights, but these masses of flame, leaping from the ground, had a meaning all their own. They were the spectacular outward and visible evidences of more than a million pounds of high explosives which had been buried deep in mines below the enemy's positions for months.

All the world appeared lurid and

horrible under the sinister glow. The earth shook as if torn by a great seismic disturbance. It was not a single shock. The force of the explosion actually set the earth rocking to and fro, and under the influence of the giant guns, which immediately began to roar from far and near, the trembling continued indefinitely. It was 3:10 o'clock when this final terrific bombardment began.

It has seemed that the battle of the Somme attained the ultimate in the close assembly of war weapons, but this sudden outpouring on Messines ridge was beyond all calculation. The lighter field guns far forward set up a perfect curtain fire, under which the assaulting troops trudged confidently to their allotted goals. Farther back the deep-throated heavies began to pour out torrents of high explosive shells on the German trenches and communications, while still other guns—enough to win any ordinary battle—concentrated themselves solely to the task of detaching German guns and gunners in batts of gas fired in shells of every conceivable caliber.

The effect of this counter battery work was not appreciated until later in the day, when the infantry sent back word that their progress had not been hampered by the enemy artillery and that their casualties amounted to virtually nothing.

Enemy Signals for Help. Great black observation balloons had stolen skyward during the din of the newly begun battle. In the wood back of the windmill, spring birds, awakened by the deafening clamor, had begun to sing joyously. Like so many children who have come into the consciousness of being in the midst of the war, these birds regarded the appalling noise of the battle as a normal condition of life.

The smoke of the giant mines exploded along the battle front meantime rose in great, curling plumes toward the sky and was punctuated by red signals for help from the stricken Germans in the front and support lines. Never was the air filled with more frantic notices of danger. The entire horizon glowed with red balls of fire sent up by the nervous Germans.

More and more British airplanes began to make their appearance. One flew over the lines, the flashes of the guns being reflected brilliantly on its highly glazed wings.

Under this appalling fire trudged forward on the ten-mile front General Plumer's army. At many places the men found German troops utterly dazed by the mine explosion and the ordeal of the artillery fire.

First Taste of New Warfare. Many of these troops had but recently come from Russia, where they had spent 18 months and knew nothing of what actual warfare was like on the western front. They had bolted at the first mine explosion and had only been gathered together in groups by their noncommissioned officers when the British appeared out of the smoke and shells and made them prisoner.

They said they had been given to understand by their officers that the British always killed their prisoners. It was really pitiful in some instances to see the manner in which these prisoners cringed to their captors. As a matter of fact, the British soldier, when the fighting is done, is inclined almost too strongly to treat the German prisoners as pals. Some of the prisoners taken today had only gone into the German lines last night and had made their way forward under a galling fire and had lost heavily. But the troops already in the line were calling for relief in such a manner that their appeals could not be denied.

Failed to Time Attack. In view of the fact that the attack had been expected the German commanders were endeavoring to get their best units actually into the fighting front, but had underestimated when the British would strike. The troops in a strange line were utterly bewildered when the attack began and fell easy prey to the advancing British.

The Irish, New Zealanders and Australians, who had been rehearsed in every detail of "the show," knew just what to do from the moment the word to advance was given.

The battle was far more visible during the first uncertain moments than later when the sun gradually burned its way through the eastern banks of clouds. By that time the smoke of exploding shells and the vapors from the blinding barrage, which had been part of the artillery duty, obscured the more distant landscape to such an extent that the roaring guns could not be seen at all, although the firing was almost at one's feet. The brilliantly leaping shrapnel shells, breaking far above ground, appeared through a thick mist only as brief and brilliant electric sparks.

British Planes Rule Air. For a month past, but especially since June 1, the airplanes on this front have been indefinitely at work during every possible flying hour. They had brought down nearly 50 machines in six days as a means of blinding the enemy. Lately the Germans have endeavored valiantly to obtain airplane observations for their artillery, but their observing machines have seldom been able to direct more than one or two shots before the British fighting scouts had pounced upon them and either sent them crashing to the earth or had driven them to cover at breakneck speed.

Today the British planes flew far and long over the enemy's retreating lines and were only challenged by some very bad-shooting anti-aircraft batteries. All through the day British planes ruled the air. They co-operated actively with the British artillery and infantry in maintaining the success of this brilliant episode in modern warfare.

WILSON DEFINES WAR ARMS OF U.S.

IN NOTE TO RUSSIA, REASON FOR ENTERING STRUGGLE IS MADE CLEAR.

WE SEEK NO MATERIAL PROFIT

America is Fighting for Liberation of All Peoples From Aggressions of Autocratic Force.

Washington.—President Wilson's message to Russia—the message which tells why the United States is in the war—was given out by the state department Saturday evening.

"The war has begun to go against Germany," says President Wilson, in opening his message.

"The day has come to conquer or submit," adds the president in the last paragraph of the note.

The note to Russia, designed to stiffen the purpose of Russia to continue with the allies is believed by Mr. Wilson's immediate advisers to be the most important public document from any country since the United States became a belligerent.

The gist of the message follows: "The objects the United States has had in entering the war have been very much belocuded during the past few weeks by mistaken and misleading statements, and the issues at stake are too momentous, too tremendous, too significant for the whole human race to permit any misinterpretations or misunderstandings, however slight, to remain uncorrected for a moment.

America's Position. "The position of America in this war is so clearly avowed that no man can be excused for mistaking it. She seeks no material profit or aggrandizement of any kind. She is fighting for no advantage or selfish object of her own, but for the liberation of peoples everywhere from the aggressions of autocratic force. The ruling classes in Germany have begun of late to profess a like liberality and justice of purpose, but only to preserve the power they have set up in Germany and the selfish advantages which they have wrongly gained for themselves and their private projects of power all the way from Berlin to Bagdad and beyond. Government after government has by their influence, without open conquest of its territory, been linked together in a net of intrigue directed against nothing less than the peace and liberty of the world. The meshes of that intrigue must be broken, but cannot be broken unless wrongs already done are undone; and adequate measures must be taken to prevent it from ever again being renewed or repaired.

"Of course, the imperial government and those whom it is using for their own undoing are seeking to obtain pledges that the war will end in the restoration of the status quo ante. It was the status quo ante out of which this iniquitous war issues forth, the power of the imperial German government within the empire and its widespread domination and influence outside of that empire. That status must be altered in such fashion as to prevent any such hideous thing from ever happening again.

"We are fighting for the liberty, the self-government and the undictated development of all peoples, and every feature of the settlement that concludes this war must be conceived and executed for that purpose.

"Wrongs must first be righted and then adequate safeguards must be created to prevent their being committed again. We ought not to consider remedies merely because they have a pleasing and sonorous sound. Practical questions can be settled only by practical means. Phrases will not accomplish the result. Effective readjustments will, and whatever readjustments are necessary must be made.

"But they must follow a principle, and that principle is plain. No people must be forced under sovereignty under which it does not wish to live. No territory must change hands except for the purpose of securing those who inhabit it a fair chance of life and liberty. No indemnities must be insisted on except those that constitute payment for manifest wrongs done. No readjustments of power must be made except such as will tend to secure the future peace of the world and the future welfare and happiness of its peoples.

Would Unite World.

"And then the free people of the world must draw together in some common covenant, some genuine and practical co-operation that will in effect combine their force to secure peace and justice in the dealings of nations with one another. The brotherhood of mankind must no longer be a fair but empty phrase; it must be given a structure of force and reality. The nations must realize their common life and effect a workable partnership to secure that life against the aggression of autocratic and self-pleasing power.

"For these things we can afford to pour out blood and treasure. For these are the things we have always professed a desire, and unless we pour out blood and treasure now and succeed, we may never be able to unite or show conquering force again in the great cause of human liberty. The day has come to conquer or submit.

GOLD HARD METAL TO CARRY

Average Man Cannot Transport More Than \$26,000 Worth for a Mile Without Discomfort.

When a gold shipment is to be made by ship the necessary number of kegs are taken in a truck to the assay office, where they are received at a door in the rear. The gold bars are then placed on a hand truck and rolled to the kegs. In the presence of the agents of the assay office the bars are packed in the kegs, and sawdust is placed around them to prevent abrasion. When the heads of the kegs have been placed over the packed bars, a piece of red tape is stretched across and fastened between the chime and the edge of the head. The seal of the shipping house is then attached to the head and the bottom of each keg.

After sealing, the kegs are rolled to the wagon and lifted on. It takes two men to handle each keg, as there are ten bars to a keg, with a total gold weight of about 190 pounds. It may be mentioned that \$100,000 weighs in gold about 380 pounds, and \$1,000,000 weighs 3,800 pounds. Some time ago one of the officials of an assay office compiled figures showing how much gold a man could actually handle. It is a singular thing that great difficulty is experienced in carrying gold for any distance. The weight seems to be more "dead" than that of other metals, although that may be an illusion.

For instance, the average man could carry 100 pounds of gold one mile without much discomfort. Its value would be about \$26,000. A strong man could carry, say, 150 pounds a mile, reaching the end of his journey with just under \$40,000. A very powerful man might carry 200 pounds, or nearly \$53,000, a mile without exhaustion. Carrying gold is almost as difficult as getting it.

Abode of the Mastodon.

Cyril Wood, one of the best-known mining men of the Tolstoid district, has just shipped to a San Francisco friend a mastodon tusk which he found on his Boob Creek claims. The tusk is just short of nine feet long and is in a practically perfect state of preservation. Wood says that mastodon tusks and teeth are so common as not to attract particular attention throughout the Boob Creek region, many being much larger than the one he is shipping out, but none has been so well preserved. Scores of tusks, teeth and bones of these prehistoric animals have been found in the Riley & Moulter workings on Boob Creek, and in their drifts there is a pungent odor which is attributed by the miners to the age-old remains of the mammoths, found there. While not offensive, like the odor of recently decayed animals, the smell is strong enough, according to Wood, to be readily distinguishable at considerable distances.

Cat That Went Back.

"They say the streets in Boston are frightfully crooked."

"They are. Why, do you know when I first went there I could hardly find my way around."

"That must be embarrassing."

"It is. The first week I was there I wanted to get rid of an old cat we had, and my wife got me to take it to the river a mile away."

"And you lost the cat all right?"

"Lost nothing! I never would have found my way home if I hadn't followed the cat!"

The Fundamental Principle.

"Science has taught us a great many interesting things about race progress and eugenics, but the fundamental principles of eugenics seems to have discovered itself very early in the history of the race. Healthy children are usually those who are born of happy marriages."—Woman's Home Companion.

Some Difference.

"And don't forget to bring home a few rolls." "For the piano, dearie, or for the culinary department?"

DETROIT MARKETS.

CATTLE—Best Steers	\$12.00	@ 12.50
Mixed Steers	10.25	@ 11.50
Light Butchers	8.50	@ 10.50
Best Cows	9.00	@ 10.00
Common Cows	6.50	@ 7.25
Best Heavy Bulls	9.50	@ 10.00
Stock Bulls	7.50	@ 8.00
CALVES—Best	14.50	@ 14.75
Common	8.00	@ 12.00
HOGS—Best	15.00	@ 15.50
Pigs	14.00	@ 14.00
SHEEP—Common	6.00	@ 8.00
Fair to good	9.50	@ 10.00
LAMBS—Best	15.00	@ 15.25
Light to Common	11.00	@ 12.00
DRESSED HOGS	.18	@ .19
DRESSED CALVES	.17	@ .18
Fancy	.20	@ .21
LIVE POULTRY—(Lb.)		
Broilers	.38	@ .40
No. 1 Hens	.23	
Small Hens	.21	@ .22
Ducks	.22	@ .23
Geese	.15	@ .16
Turkeys	.24	@ .25
CLOVER SEED	10.90	
TIMOTHY SEED	3.60	
WHEAT	2.35	@ 2.90
CORN	1.72	@ 1.74
OATS	.67	@ .69
RYE	2.35	
BEANS	9.00	
HAY—No. 1 Tim.	17.50	@ 18.00
Light Mixed	16.50	@ 17.00
No. 1 Clover	13.50	@ 14.00
POTATOES—(New)	4.00	
BUTTER—Dairy	.33	
Creamery (extra)	.38	
EGGS	.32	

EMERGENCY CROPS ARE TIMELY HELP

May Be Put In to Replace Crops Hit by Adverse Conditions.

BUCKWHEAT IS ONE OF BEST

Can Be Planted as Far Along as Mid-July—Soy Beans, Millet and Sorghum Are Other "Safe-ties."

East Lansing, Mich.—For the farmer who has been unable to get in his crops because of ugly weather, lack of help, or any of the myriad other adversities which have come with the present season in many parts of the state, emergency crops can be used to advantage as "life-savers," say farm-crops men of the Michigan Agricultural college. Where fields have been planted to spring-seeded crops and the seed has failed to germinate sufficiently to give a profitable stand, or where frosts, floods or insects have done damage, the land may be thoroughly disked or reseeded and planted to such crops as buckwheat, millet, soy beans, sorghum, sudan grass or flat turnips. Any of these will give profitable returns in grain or forage.

Buckwheat is Best. As a late-seeded grain crop buckwheat fits the best. It should be planted in late June, though it can be seeded as far along as mid-July with assurance of a crop, since it matures in from 60 to 70 days. It has the addi-



BUCKWHEAT—MICHIGAN'S BEST EMERGENCY CROP. May Be Put In Late in Fields Where Spring Seeded Crops Have Failed and Will Mature in From Sixty to Seventy Days.

tional virtue of thriving in a wide variety of soils and will germinate in seed beds too dry for other grains. The rate of seedling ranges from three to five pecks, either drilled or seeded broadcast, and harrowed in.

Soy Beans. Soy beans can safely be put in as late as July. They may be planted in rows 28 inches apart, at the rate of one-half bushel per acre for grain, or drilled and broadcast at the rate of one bushel per acre for hay purposes. The crop furnishes a valuable leguminous hay which serves excellent as a substitute for clover.

Millet. Millet is a dependable crop to plant as late as July 15. It furnishes a large yield of useful hay. Common, German and Hungarian millet give largest yields of best quality. One-half bushel per acre may be drilled or broadcast.

Sorghum. Sorghum, particularly the Early Amber variety, is a reliable crop to seed where there is a shortage of hay or of corn for silage. For use in the silo it should be drilled in rows 28 inches apart by using the ordinary grain drill with every fourth drill running, and seeding at the rate of 15 pounds per acre, or planted with a corn-planter in rows 36 or 42 inches apart, using six pounds of seed per acre. Sorghum closely resembles corn in appearance and should be cultivated and put in the silo in the same manner. This crop may be safely seeded as late as mid-July. For hay purposes it should be drilled with every other drill open at the rate of one bushel per acre.

Sudan Grass. Sudan grass is a promising seed and forage crop for Michigan. For seed purposes it should be drilled in late June in rows just as sorghum is planted, at the rate of six pounds per acre, and cultivated. For hay, it may be drilled or seeded broadcast at the rate of 20 to 30 pounds per acre as late as July 15.

Rape. Rape is another crop which can be seeded in mid-summer and which will furnish a large amount of late summer or early fall forage for hogs, sheep and cattle. The Dwarf Essex variety should be demanded, and for best results should be drilled in rows 22 to 28 inches apart, at the rate of two pounds per acre, and cultivated. Good results can, however, be secured by drilling or broadcasting at the rate of four pounds per acre.

Flat turnips may be seeded broadcast in mid-summer. Planted at this time they are usually broadcasted, using four pounds per acre, though larger yields can be secured by planting two or three pounds in rows 20 to 30 inches apart, afterward thinning and cultivating.

INSECTICIDES ARE COSTLY

"Kedzie Mixture" May Be Substituted, However, for Arsenate of Lead.

East Lansing, Mich.—A method for effecting an economy in the use of insecticides, which have become increasingly costly with the continuation of the war, is suggested by Prof. Rufus H. Pettit of M. A. C., who is recommending that where it is possible, "Kedzie mixture" be substituted for arsenate of lead.

"Arsenate of lead," according to Professor Pettit, "has become a standard for so long that we are apt to forget that there are other stomach poisons which may be used, in some cases, with equally good results. The cheapest stomach poison of all is 'Kedzie mixture,' a preparation originally proposed by the late Dr. R. C. Kedzie, to take the place of paris green, which was becoming rather expensive even 20 years ago.

"Kedzie mixture never became so extensively used as would otherwise have been the case, because it cannot be combined with lime sulphur, and lime sulphur is a favorite summer spray. Lime sulphur, however, is not used on potatoes, and at the present time a great saving can be effected by making use of 'Kedzie mixture' with lime or with bordeaux, in fighting the ever-present potato beetle.

"Doctor Kedzie gave the following as directions for the preparation of this spray:

"Dissolve the arsenic by boiling with carbonate of soda to insure complete solution, which solution can be kept ready for making a spraying solution whenever needed. To make the material for 800 gallons of spraying mixture, boil two pounds of white arsenic with eight pounds of sal soda (crystals of carbonate of soda—washing soda)—found in every drug store) in two gallons of water. Boil these materials in any iron pot not used for any other purpose. Boil for 15 minutes, or until the arsenic dissolves, leaving only a small muddy sediment. Put this solution in a two-gallon jug and label 'Poison, stock material for spraying mixture.'

"The spraying mixture can be prepared whenever required, and in the quantity needed at the time by slaking two pounds of lime, adding this to 40 gallons of water; pour into this a pint of the stock arsenic solution. Mix by stirring thoroughly and the spraying mixture is ready for use. The arsenic in this mixture is equivalent to four ounces of paris green.

"The pot or jug must never be used for any other purpose after using it for this mixture."

If an additional pound or two of lime be added to the mixture, it will help to make the application permanent and conspicuous without in any way interfering with its effects. In using it, the extra lime should be added.

BLISTER RUST HAS FOOTHOLD

Parasite Which Ravaged European Pines Is Found in Michigan.

East Lansing, Mich.—White pine blister rust, the parasite which has been killing Europe's white pines on as vast a scale as her guns have been killing men, has gained a foothold in Michigan, and unless controlled, will repeat here, it is feared, its destructive work abroad. The disease has been established in the East for some time, and has spread threateningly, but it was believed by Michigan foresters that it had not reached this state. Inspections last season failed to disclose its presence, but more recent examinations have demonstrated that the rust has not only begun its work in Michigan, but has been here for years. One nursery was found where imported trees ten years old were afflicted with the parasite.

During the coming summer, accordingly, three foresters will take the field in Michigan to ferret out the affected districts and inaugurate control measures. The latter will require the co-operation not only of citizens generally, but of farmers in particular. The inspectors will begin their work at once.

So far as is known, there is no cure for the disease. It kills all the young trees it infects and spreads rapidly, but while it does its greatest damage to the white pine, it requires currant or gooseberry bushes to complete its life cycle. In May and June small oval bodies are blown from the diseased pines, and these, alighting on the leaves of currant and gooseberry bushes, grow and produce clusters of tiny yellow spots. From these spots are later released minute oval spores or "seeds," and these, when blown about by the wind, spread the parasite to other gooseberry and currant bushes. Then in August another "crop" is formed on the bushes, but this time, instead of only the tiny yellow ovals, there are also produced dark, hornlike formations covered with small, round bodies. These, when lodged by the wind on the bark of the pines, germinate on the tree and infect it. The bark is blistered and circulation cut off, finally resulting in the death of the tree.

In awakening the public to the menace of the blister rust, the foresters are recommending that the diseased pines, when found, be destroyed at once, and any currants or gooseberries in the vicinity uprooted and burned. Where there is doubt, persons discovering symptoms of the disease have been asked to send the suspected bark of the pine, or leaves of currants and gooseberries to the forestry college and the Michigan Agricultural college for examination.

ENGLAND ALSO SAYS "NO ANNEXATIONS"

MAKES THIS REPLY TO RUSSIAN REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF WAR AIMS.

WAR NOT ONE OF CONQUEST

Purpose at Outset Was to Defend Existence of Country and Enforce Respect for Law of Nations.

London.—The British government, in a note replying to the Russian request for a statement of war aims, concurs in the sentiments against annexations, as expressed by the new Russian government, and declares that Great Britain purposes to defend the existence and enforce respect of all international engagements.

The note, as made public, declares that peoples oppressed by alien tyranny must be liberated and rejoices that Russia intends liberating Poland.

Such a settlement of the war is sought by England, the note declares, that causes for future wars may be removed.

Text of British Note.

Following is the text of Great Britain's reply to the Russian note: "In the proclamation to the Russian people, enclosed with the note, it is said that free Russia does not purpose to dominate other peoples or take from them their national patrimony, or forcibly occupy foreign territory.

"In this sentiment the British government heartily concurs. It did not enter the war as a war of conquest; it is not continuing it for such object. The purpose at the outset was to defend the existence of our country and enforce respect for international engagements. To those objects have now been added that of liberating populations oppressed by alien tyranny.

Want Free Poland.

"The British government heartily rejoices, therefore, that free Russia has announced her intention of liberating Poland; not only Poland ruled by the old Russian autocracy, but equally that within the domination of the Germanic empires. In this enterprise the British democracy wishes Russia godspeed.

"Beyond everything we must seek such settlement as will secure the happiness and contentment of peoples and take away all legitimate causes of future war.

"The British government heartily joins with its Russian allies in its acceptance and approval of the principles laid down by President Wilson in his historic message to the American congress. These are the aims on which the British peoples are fighting. These are the principles by which their war policy is and will be guided.

"The British government believes, broadly speaking, the agreements it has from time to time made with its allies are conformable to these standards, but if the Russian government is quite ready with its allies to examine and, if need be, to revise these agreements."

ALLIES HOLD GROUND GAINED

British and Italians Report Further Inroads on Tauton Lines.

London.—While the artillery is exceedingly active along the greater portion of the front in Belgium from the region of the North sea to the French border, probably preliminary to infantry attacks by the French and Belgians, the British troops in the Messines region are giving the Germans no rest.

Not satisfied with the capture of the famous Messines ridge last week, the British men continue here and there to dig farther into the territory held by the Germans.

Quiet on French Front.

Comparatively quiet reigns on the front held by the French, except for artillery duels on various sectors, especially in the region of Mont Verille. The Berlin war office asserts that on the Chemin-des-Dames the Germans in a surprise attack killed the occupants of French trenches and returned to their own lines with prisoners.

Italians Are Active.

What probably may be another intensive attack by the Italians has started in the region southeast of Trent, where King Victor Emmanuel's men have